GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL AND MINES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3417
ANSWERED ON:15.04.2002
INQUIRY COMMISSIONS ON ACCIDENTS IN COAL MINES
RAJO SINGH

Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a): the number of inquiry commissions set up to inquire into coal mines accidents during the last three years and the funds spent on each commission;

(b): the details of the commissions which did not present their reports within the stipulated period; and

(c): the number of officials against whom action was recommended/taken by these commissions?

Answer

THE MINISTER FOR COAL & MINES(SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN)

(a): Two High Powered Committees and one court of enquiry have been set up during the last three years. The Ministry of Labour, Government of India inexercise of powers under sub-section (1) of Section 24 of the Mines Act, 1952 has appointed Justice Gurusharan Sharma, Judge,High Court of Jharkhand to hold an enquiryinto the causes and circumstances leading to Bagdigi accident which took place on 2-2-2001 and to fix responsibility for the causes leading to the accident. Two High Powered Committees were constituted by the Ministry of Coal, Government of India vide Office Memorandum No. 22022/45/99-CRC dated 29.07.99and No. 22022/40/2000-CRC dated 11-08-2000 to go into detailsof the accident at Parascole (West) colliery of ECL on 6.7.1999 and Kawadi opencast mine of WCL on 24.6.2000 respectively. The expenditure incurred for High Powered Committee to go into details of the accident at Parascole (West) colliery of ECL and Kawadi opencast mine of WCLis Rs. 25,000/- and Rs. 3,29,602/- respectively. The Bagdigi court of enquiry is still in progress.

(b): Both of the High Powered Committee'sreport was submitted to the Ministry of Coal and the Bagdigicourt of enquiry is still in progress.

(c): Parascole (West) accident:- High PoweredCommittee recommended action against four officials of ECL.DGMS haslaunched prosecution against officials held responsible in its enquiry.

Kawadi opencast accident:- DGMS has launched prosecution against nine officials held responsible in the enquiry. Bagdigi disaster:- The Bagdigi court of enquiry is still in progress.